

Dear Church Family and Friends,

As you undoubtedly know by now, our world has been consumed with addressing the work to contain the spread of a virus known as COVID-19, or the Coronavirus.

There is a lot of news coverage on this virus. Here is a quick fact sheet on what is presently known:

What is coronavirus?

Coronavirus is a new respiratory virus that originated in Wuhan, China. The virus is contagious and potentially fatal. It is suspected that it is transmitted through coughing and sneezing by infected individuals. At the present time, there is no vaccine, cure or specific treatment.

How is coronavirus spread?

Health authorities have not confirmed how coronavirus is transmitted but suspect it is spread person-to-person. There is also evidence that the virus has been spread by animal sources, including individuals with links to seafood or animal markets. They do not believe you can get it from air, water or food.

How many people survive coronavirus?

Currently, coronavirus has a fatality rate of less than 3 percent. As such, the majority of those affected so far have survived the disease.

What are the signs and symptoms of coronavirus?

Individuals infected with coronavirus have displayed the following symptoms:

- Mild to severe respiratory illness.
- Fever.
- Cough.
- Difficulty breathing.

What are the other concerns?

The incubation period, or the time interval from infection to onset of symptoms, is from two to 14 days. During this period, an individual can be infected and spreading the disease although they may not be experiencing the signs and symptoms of the virus.

The County of San Diego has a website that provides extensive information on COVID-19, including an up-to-the-day report of confirmed cases, presumed cases, and those being tested within the county.

Organizations of all varieties, both in the private and in the public sector, have taken proactive steps in doing their best to participate in the effort to halt the spread of this virus. East Clairemont has been active in this effort as well, continuing to work to help provide a clean, sanitary environment here on the church campus.

Some of the steps that we have been taking are as follows:

- Our restroom facilities are regularly clean and disinfected, wiping down faucets, handles, and door knobs with hospital-grade disinfectant;

- The doorknobs and light switches around the church campus are wiped down with hospital-grade disinfectant;
- The various television monitors and computer screens (as well as the sound board and microphones) are wiped down with hospital-grade disinfectant;
- The items used in the nursery—the toys used by the children in particular—are disinfected regularly

Should you stay home?

Of course, we would not presume to tell you what you should do; you are ultimately the one who must decide. We can tell you what health agencies continue to advise: if you are sneezing, have difficulty breathing, or have a high fever, it would be best to remain home. The CDC has also advised those over the age of 60, especially those whose immune systems are already compromised with other issues, to stay home, as they would be particularly susceptible to the virus.

As you prayerfully consider what your next steps will be, one of those decisions will pertain to attending worship services here at East Clairmont. Of course, we want to see you worship with us in person; we are so much better together! At the same time, we also understand and we want you to feel safe and secure. So if you do decide to stay home until this passes, remember that you can join us online via live streaming options such as on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

At the same time as we provide this information and these cautions, I would also like to strongly encourage you to consider taking this season to discover the fresh, new blessings the Lord seeks to provide to us each day. One of those blessings is a program titled “The Chosen.” “The Chosen” is a series depicting the life of the Lord in a way that almost puts the viewer on the scene. We are able to see the compassion, the humanity, the authority, as well as the dignity of the Lord in a way that can have a lasting impact on you.

If you are forced to stay at home in this season, I would strongly encourage you to check out “The Chosen”. Visit their website at [www.https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen](https://studios.vidangel.com/the-chosen). To download the app, go to the App Store or Google Play and search “The Chosen.”

Watch episode 1. Decide for yourself if you would like to contribute to the funding effort, and then watch the rest of series 1. Honestly, it is unlike anything ever produced on the Lord’s life here on this earth. It helps enable us to see *Him*. What a joy it is to serve Him!

Let’s remember that this is but for a season, but the Lord’s goodness lasts forever!

Love you all so much!

Pastor Chris Clark